

## Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 AID-20 SY-10 OPR-02 NEA-10

RSR-01 (ADP) W

----- 071326

O R 122225Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2789

INFO DIA DOD WASHDC

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 4974

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: PERON MOVES TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH OTHER PARTIES AND  
INSTITUTIONS

1. SUMMARY: PERON IS MOVING TO FORM GRAN ACUERDO NACIONAL  
(WITHOUT LANUSSE) BASED ON AGREEMENT OF THREE MAJOR POLITICAL  
POLES--PERONISM, UCR AND MILITARY. BOTH MILITARY AND UCR  
APPEAR READY TO COOPERATE BUT EACH IN OWN  
WAY IS URGING PERON  
TO PUT OWN HOUSE IN ORDER. IF PERON'S HEALTH IS SOMEWHAT MORE  
PRECARIOUS THAN PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED, HE MAY BE FORCED TO  
FACE UP TO SUCCESSION PROBLEM AND PUT THINGS IN ORDER MORE  
QUICKLY THAN HE WOULD HAVE WISHED. THIS MAY WELL BE INDICATED  
BY AS YET UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THIS AFTERNOON OF CAMPORA'S  
IMPENDING RESIGNATION. END SUMMARY.

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2. ON HEELS OF HIS MEETING WITH ARMY CINC GENERAL CARCAGNO, PERON  
YESTERDAY RECEIVED SEPARATELY CINCS OF AIR FORCE AND NAVY.  
SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION HAVE NOT BEEN REVEALED, BUT, AS IN CASE  
OF CARCAGNO'S CALL ON JULY 10, ATMOSPHERE OF BOTH YESTERDAY'S

MEETINGS SEEMED TO BE EXTREMELY CORDIAL.

3. SIGNIFICANTLY, TOO, CARCAGNO LAST NIGHT HAD DINNER WITH UCR LEADER BALBIN, AND REPORTEDLY PLANS TO MEET WITH LEADERS OF OTHER SIGNIFICANT PARTIES SHORTLY--AS DOES PERON. MANRIQUE TOLD CHARGE AT LUNCH 7/12 HE MEETING WITH CARCAGNO JULY 13.

4. ROUND OF MEETINGS AND NEGOTIATIONS AMONG MILITARY, UCR, AND PERON CLEARLY RESPONDS AT LEAST IN PART TO CONCEPT OF POLITICAL STABILITY BASED ON AGREEMENT AND COOPERATION OF THESE THREE CENTERS OF POLITICAL GRAVITY. PERONISTS CONTACTS DESCRIBE HIS TRIANGULAR RELATIONSHIP AS KEYSTONE OF PERON'S NATIONAL UNITY PROGRAM. IT IS, IN EFFECT, LANUSSE'S GRAN ACUERDO NACIONAL WITHOUT LANUSSE.

5. EMBASSY'S UCR CONTACTS TELL US THEY ALSO SEE TRI-POLAR UNDERSTANDING AS BASIC TO REAL STABILITY, AND ARE CURRENTLY COOPERATING FULLY IN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE IT. THEY INDICATE, HOWEVER, THAT IN MEETINGS WITH PERONISTS THEY ARE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT THE FUTURE COOPERATION IS IN PZ# CONTINGENT UPON MORE INSPIRING PERFORMANCE ON PART OF GOVERNMENT ITSELF. IF PERONISTS WANT OTHERS TO JOIN WITH THEM IN NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION, THEY MUST DEMONSTRATE THEIR OWN CAPACITY TO GOVERN AND PROMOTE CONSENSUS. SUCH EMBARRASMENTS AS PRISON RIOTS, ILLEGAL OCCUPATIONS AND TERRORISM MUST STOP, OR LEAST BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL. RADICALES ACKNOWLEDGE PRIVATELY THAT IN HIS MEETING WITH BALBIN, PERON WAS AS CONCERNED AS THEY OVER SITUATION AND INDICATED FIRM INTENTION TO COME TO GRIPS WITH IT. THAT PERON IS FULLY AWARE OF NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES SUCH ACTIONS CAN HAVE FOR ARGENTINA (AND INDEED, THAT HIS VIEW OF ROLE FOREIGN INVESTMENT IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THAT SUGGESTED BY DRAFT LAW ON SUBJECT--SEE BA-4568) IS SEEN IN HIS JULY 10 STATEMENT TO NEWSMEN: "FIRST THING WE MUST OFFER FOREIGN INVESTMENT IS CONFIDENCE. IF WE GO ON AS WE ARE, NOT MANY WILL HAVE CONFIDENCE IN US. "(ONE WELL CLUED-IN ARGENTINE CONFIDENTIAL

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NEWSMAN COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT IF THERE ANY DOUBT IN MINDS OF LEFTISTS THAT PERON IS IN FACT A CONSERVATIVE POLITICIAN, THAT REMARK SHOULD DISPELL IT).

6. ARMED FORCES, LIKE UCR, ALSO APPEAR READY TO COOPERATE FULLY IN NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION BUT THEY TOO HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS OR CONCERNS. THEY WANT GOVT TO CRACK DOWN HARDER ON TERRORISTS AND LEFTISTS SUCH AS TOSCO IN CORDOBA AND TO RULE WITH FIRMER HAND GENERALLY. MILITARY, LIKE VIRTUALLY EVERYONE ELSE IN ARGENTINA, NOW SEE PERON AS BEST GUARANTEE OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND STABILITY. PRESS QUOTES WELL-INFORMED SOURCES TO EFFECT THAT CARCAGNO URGED PERON TO DELAY ANY TRAVEL PLANS BECAUSE HIS PRESENCE IN COUNTRY WAS VITAL ELEMENT TO STABILITY OF SITUATION. SOME

PRESS REPORTS HAVE ALSO SPECULATED THAT MILITARY WANT PERON, IN WHOM THEY HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE, TO DEPOSE AND RULE IN PLACE OF CAMPORA, IN WHOM THEY HAVE NONE.

7. PERONIST CONTACTS INSIST THAT MODERATE LINE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, INCLUDING RAPPROCHEMENT WITH MILITARY, HAVE BEEN PERON'S GOALS ALL ALONG AND THAT HIS IMMEDIATE PURSUIT OF THESE OBJECTIVES WAS DELAYED ONLY BY UNTIMELY ILLNESS SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL. NOW THAT HE HAS COMPLETELY RECOVERED, THEY SAY, HE IS GOING TO WORK WITH A WILL, AS SUGGESTED BY HIS ROUND OF MEETINGS WITH MILITARY.

8. INTERESTINGLY, VIEWS AS TO HOW PERON SHOULD GO ABOUT PUTTING HOUSE IN ORDER DIFFER RATHER WIDELY. MODERATE PERONISTS HAVE TAKEN VIEW WITH EMBASSY THAT PROBLEM RESIDES IN YOUNG LEFTISTS AROUND CAMPORA WHO ARE MANIPULATING HIM IN DIRECTION AT ODDS WITH THAT DESIRED BY PERON. THEY SUGGEST THAT PROBLEM COULD BE SOLVED BY GETTING RID OF ADVISORS SUCH AS NEPHEW MARIO CAMPORA, INT MIN RIGHI AND OTHERS, BUT NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY CAMPORA HIMSELF WHO, THEY SAY, WOULD BE UTTERLY COMPLIANT TO PERON'S WISHES ONCE THIS COTERIE REMOVED. SOME KEY UCR MEMBERS, ON OTHER HAND, PROFESS THEMSELVES TO BE MORE CONCERNED OVER EXTREME RIGHT WING IN PERONIST MOVEMENT. RIGHI, MARIO CAMPORA AND OTHERS, THEY SAY, ARE AT LEAST HONEST AND DEMOCRATICALLY INCLINED, WHILE OSINDE AND THOSE OF HIS ILK ARE FACISTS AND ARE REAL THREAT. THIS IN PART REFLECTS TRADITIONAL UCR VIEW OF PERONISM. AS ONE UCR MEMBER PUT IT, "IT MAY NOT BE AN ALTOGETHER BALANCED ANALYSIS, BUT, THEN, GALIMBERTI HAS NEVER TORTURED UCR MEMBERS, OSINDE HAS." CONFIDENTIAL

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9. PERON MAY NOT HAVE RECOVERED COMPLETELY, AS HIS DOCTORS HAVE AVERRED DURING PAST FEW DAYS. PERSISTENT BUT UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE PERON IS IN FACT MORE ILL THAN PUBLICLY ADMITTED AND MAY HAVE LIMITED TIME TO LIVE. IF SO, HE MAY HAVE TO COME TO TERMS WITH SUCCESSION PROBLEM SOONER THAN HE WOULD WISH. NEITHER HE NOR MILITARY NOR UCR WOULD SAVOR POSSIBILITY OF SHORTLY SEEING CAMPORA IN POWER WITHOUT PERON BEHIND HIM.

10. COMMENT: INTERESTINGLY, BALBIN AND MILITARY (UNDER CARCAGNO'S ABLE LEADERSHIP), COHESIVENESS AND HIGH DEGREE OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION, REEMERGING AS STABLE AND IMPORTANT POLITICAL FACTORS.

11. AS THIS TELEGRAM WAS BEING PREPARED, REPORTS BEGAN COMING IN THAT CAMPORA AND SOLANO LIMA MAY RESIGN (SEE SITREPS). KREBS

NOTE BY OCT: # AS RECEIVED. SERVICE UPON REQUEST.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 10 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BUENOS04974  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730768/abqceelm.tel  
**Line Count:** 160  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <31-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:**  
**Subject:** PERON MOVES TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH OTHER PARTIES AND INSTITUTIONS  
**TAGS:** PINT, AR, PERON JUAN  
**To:** STATE INFO DIA DOD  
USCINCSO  
ASUNCION  
BRASILIA  
MONTEVIDEO  
SANTIAGO  
LA PAZ

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005